

A Course of Action to meet growing leadership needs in our diocese— just doing what Jesus teaches us to do

The vision of Bishop Nathan and his Advisory Board to train persons in our new pilot programs for the priesthood (over the age of 55) and lay pastoral leadership to serve in congregations with no monetary reward continues to guide us into innovative ways to meet the needs of the changing spiritual and academic landscape of our culture. The Advisory Board, chaired by Canon David Lovelace, is presently exploring the ways we strengthen our work with the Commission on Ministry, Examining Chaplains and the individual parish communities. Our desire is to continue excellence in leadership development through the pilot programs as has been accomplished in the school of the Diaconate.

Three online courses will be offered this fall for the School of the Diaconate and for the pilot programs:

- “Homiletics,” taught by The Rev. Dr. Duncan Johnston
- “Anglican Spirituality; Prayer and Practice,” taught by The Rev. Jonathan Currier
- “Anglican Perspectives on Scripture,” taught by the Rev. Dr. Duncan Johnston

In addition we are presently working on developing our Ethics course.

Courses begin with orientation on October 25-27, 2013.

One of our main outcome goals is for us to continue to build healthy online formation communities while students complete their academic studies. Our first module during the spring of 2013 proved we could do it-- intentional learning communities were formed; faith grew and vocation was strengthened.

All inquiring and discerning hearts are invited to pray about your vocational questions, speak with others, especially your clergy, and know that if you think you might be hearing a call to ordained ministry and pastoral leadership, then you are not alone. Many have heard that call and have responded. They have been students, teachers, builders, police officers, teenagers, retirees, civil servants, mechanics, mothers, fathers, computer operators . . . the list is endless.

Speak to your clergy; and then, when ready, with our Bishop Nathan. The Diocesan SCS Registration for fall 2013 semester is open to all who are ready. Registration will open in August.

Contact The Rev. Canon Robyn Szoke-Coolidge, rszoke@diocesecpa.org, for more information and watch for our new web page, www.diocesecpa.org.